



US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5



485138

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region V**

Subject: POLREP #1
US Steel Pickle Liquor Spill

Ecorse, MI
Latitude: 42.2550119 Longitude: -83.1327915

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From: Jeffrey Lippert, On-Scene Coordinator

Date: 5/10/2017

Reporting Period: 5/08/2017-5/09/2017

1. Introduction**1.1 Background**

Site Number:	Contract Number:
D.O. Number:	Action Memo Date:
Response Authority: CERCLA	Response Type: Emergency
Response Lead: PRP	Incident Category:
NPL Status: Non NPL	Operable Unit:
Mobilization Date: 5/8/2017	Start Date:
Demob Date: 5/8/2017	Completion Date: 5/9/2017
CERCLIS ID:	RCRIS ID:
ERNS No.:	State Notification: Yes
FPN#:	Reimbursable Account #:

1.1.1 Incident Category
Emergency Response

1.1.2 Site Description

U.S. Steel is a large steel manufacturing plant on the Detroit River in Ecorse and River Rouge, Michigan. It is located in a residential, commercial and industrial setting.

1.1.2.1 Location

1 Quality Drive, Ecorse, Wayne County, Michigan 48229

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

A catastrophic failure of an 11,000 gallon spent pickle liquor AST spilled all 11,000 gallons into secondary containment. The spill was so great that it overwhelmed secondary containment and entered both U.S. Steel's waste water treatment system and the storm sewer that leads to the Detroit River.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

EPA toured the scene with the US Steel Environmental Manager. The vast majority of the 11,000 gallon pickle liquor spill was

In the storm sewer pipe at the Detroit River Outfall is approximately 7 s.u.

In the mixing zone of the outfall and Detroit River is approximately 7 s.u.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

On 5/08/2017, U.S. Steel mobilized cleanup contractors to remove the spent pickle liquor from secondary containment with vacuum trucks. U.S. Steel also spread sand and other absorbents onto the pavement that was impacted by the spill. Sand and absorbents were placed into roll-off boxes for disposal. The pH of the storm sewer system was monitored and all were neutral.

2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)

U.S. Steel

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

Waste Stream	Medium	Quantity	Manifest #	Treatment	Disposal
waste water	liquid	11,000		on-site	
contaminated sand	solid	60 CY	Non Haz		X

Regional Metrics		
This is an Integrated River Assessment. The numbers should overlap.	Miles of river systems cleaned and/or restored	0
	Cubic yards of contaminated sediments removed and/or capped	0
	Gallons of oil/water recovered	11,000
	Acres of soil/sediment cleaned up in floodplains and riverbanks	0
Stand Alone Assessment	Number of contaminated residential yards cleaned up	0
	Number of workers on site	18
Contaminant(s) of Concern	pH	
Oil Response Tracking		
Estimated volume	Initial amount released	N/A
	Final amount collected	N/A
CANAPS Info	FPN Ceiling Amount	N/A
	FPN Number	N/A
	Body of Water affected	N/A
Administrative and Logistical Factors (Place X where applicable)		
Precedent-Setting HQ Consultations (e.g., fracking, asbestos)	Community challenges or high involvement	Radiological
More than one PRP	Endangered Species Act / Essential Fish Habitat issues	Explosives
AOC	Historic preservation issues	Residential impacts
UAO	NPL site	Relocation
DOJ involved	Remote location	Drinking water impacted
Criminal Investigation Division involved	Extreme weather or abnormal field season	Environmental justice

		Command established		threatened)
	CID confirms Criminal Charges Have Been Filed			

Green Metrics				
	Metric		Amount	Units
	Diesel Fuel Used		0	gallons
	Unleaded Fuel Used		0	gallons
	Alternative/E-85 Fuel Used		0	gallons
	Electricity from electric company		0	kWh
	Electric Company Name and Account #		N/A	
	Electricity from sources other than the electric company		N/A	kWh
	Solid waste reused		0	ton
	Solid waste recycled		0	ton
	Water Used		0	gallons

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

None.

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

U.S. Steel will remove and replace the failed spent pickle liquor tank

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

None.

2.2.2 Issues

None.

2.3 Logistics Section

No information available at this time.

2.4 Finance Section

No information available at this time.

2.5 Other Command Staff

2.5.1 Safety Officer

U.S. Steel Personnel

2.5.2 Liaison Officer

U.S. Steel Personnel

2.5.3 Information Officer

U.S. Steel Personnel

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

N/A

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

USCG

CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CERCLIS	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Information System
DNR	Department of Natural Resources
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ERNS	Emergency Response Notification System
ERRS	Emergency and Rapid Response Service
OEPA	Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
NCP	National Oil and Hazardous Substance Pollution Contingency Plan
su	Standard Units
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NPL	National Priorities List
NRC	National Response Center
OSC	On Scene Coordinator
RCRIS	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Information System
PRP	Potentially Responsible Party
CWA	Clean Water Act
START	Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team
US FWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
USCG	United States Coast Guard

6. Additional sources of information

6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

N/A

6.2 Reporting Schedule

No further reports will be issued by EPA

7. Situational Reference Materials

NCP

CERCLA



RT2888

ADLER
1-800-431-3401

RT3982

ADLER
1-800-431-3401





